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THE OBSERVATOR.

Continuation of the Diſcourſe of the Cevennois. *Of their new Victory. Of Captain* Wade *and* Kirby's *being Shot to Death at* Plymouth.

From Wednesday April the 21ſt, to Saturday April the 24th, 1703.

ountry-m. MAſter *Obſervator*, I have now brought a good Cargo of News from *Lon-n*. But by your leave, I muſt begin with my ood Friends the *Cevennois*; I have got a brave ghting Story from thoſe People: Monſieur *lontzoguewell*, I think they call him, the *French* grants General had Intelligence of a Compa- of poor People to the Number of 80, who re got in a Mill near *Neiſms* Praying to God mighty after the manner of the Reformed urches. This Mercileſs Beaſt of Prey came ither with a Company of his Cut-Throats, d Murdered theſe poor People, Men, Wo-n and Children after a moſt Barbarous man-r, and then ſetting Fire to the Houſe, their aſſacred Bodies were reduc'd to Aſhes by Flames. The *Cevennois* hearing of this rbarous Action, They came down in a Bo- and engaged the *French* Cut-Throats. The ght was Long and Obſtinate, but the Cut-hroats were entirely Routed, having 2000 n kill'd on the ſpot, with the loſs of all ir Cannon and Baggage, beſides abundance ſmall Arms; the *Cevennois* Purſu'd them to Gates of *Neiſms*, and for that Barbarous tion at the Mill, they have put a Price on *French* Generals Head, who now keeps cloſe hat City, and has Sworn the Peace againſt *Cevennois*, and has Proteſted againſt their ceedings: A Copy of which Proteſt he has to his Tyrant at *Verſails*, and deſires he uld return him an Anſwer by Forty Thou-d Horſe and Foot, which will hardly be icient to keep him out of Bodily Fear.

Obſ. You ſee here, honeſt *Country-man*, the barous Cruelty of the *French* Tyrant, and t little Reaſon We have to raiſe Simples Honour in Point of Aſſiſting our Proteſtant thren againſt ſuch a Mercileſs Beaſt. We need ſtand upon *Punctilio*'s of Honour h a Crowned Head, that never was guilty ne Honourable Action; but has Uſurp'd on Rights of all Mankind. He was beholden he *Cevennois* for his Crown; and he has arded them ever ſince with the moſt Bar-ous Uſage. The moſt Eminent Services can r bind a Tyrant to *Thankfulneſs* and *Gra-le*. A fooliſh *Bigot Prince*, or an *Arbitrary* ing *Monarch*, muſt never be thought the ects of a Wiſe Mans *Love* or *Loyalty*. For e One is no Competent Judge of the good ices of his Subjects; ſo the Other uſes as Tools to work his *Arbitrary* Ends; h done, he Sacrifices them as Inſtruments gerous to his Greatneſs.

on may Obſerve alſo, honeſt *Country-man*, Difference betwixt Fighting for *Property* and Fighting for *Pay*. The *Cevennois* have no other Views than the good of their dear Country, the Cauſe of their *Holy Religion*, and the Re-eſtabliſhment of their *Civil Liberties*. The Cloud of private Intereſt does not interpoſe to prevent their Sight of the Great End of their taking Arms: When as *Mercenary Armies* move by the Attraction of *Gold*, as *Iron* moves by that of the *Load-ſtone*. Their Wheels often want Greaſing. *No longer Pipe, no longer Dance: No longer Pay, no longer Fight*. And 'tis well, if we are Faithfully ſerved on theſe Terms. When War becomes a Trade, the Soldiers will keep open Shop as long as they can. They'll March and Counter-march, they'll ſink up to the Ears in Trenches before they'll loſe their Commerce.

The Bravery of the *Cevennois* ſhews us alſo, how uſeleſs Standing Armies are to a People, who have a Right to their Liberty. Standing Armies are indeed the Badges of Slavery, and no Prince will deſire an Armed Force amidſt his own People, but to make himſelf Abſolute, and them Slaves. Our daily Advices by the Foreign Prints aſſure us, That Men not trained to Arms, do get Glorious Victories over Regular Troops: I don't find but the *Cevennois* are as well skill'd in Killing of Men as are the Troops of the *French* King, nay to a greater Degree, for hitherto they have Killed four to one.

But what ſhall we ſay of theſe Succeſſes? We muſt not attribute them to Humane Courage and Conduct, but to that Almighty Power which is unerring in its Wiſdom and Superintends the Actions of Men. To that Over-Ruler of Armies who with a Word of His Mouth can ſhake the Earth, and make mighty Hoſts tremble at his Preſence; who can make the great ones of the Earth retire before his Anger into the darkeſt Receſſes; who can inſpire with Courage the meaneſt Cottagers, and moſt abject Creatures, and Cauſe them to ride in Triumph over the Necks of their Enemies: To him we owe the ſafety of *Europe*, of *England*, and of he whole *Confederacy*: 'Tis he who has Spiritted his People in the *Cevennes* to a Recovery of their Rights, and the Defence of their Religion, and he I hope will be the Leader of their Armies. We have many Years truſted to our own Strength, and made Uſe of very improper Inſtruments. Inſtead of Victory and Conqueſt, we have ſunk beneath the Burdens of Treachery and Cowardice: We have Acted as if we had been in League with our Enemies: But now Providence has found out the Way, and God has Spiritted a People to do his Work.

I have told you my Thoughts concerning our Aſſiſting of theſe People, which we muſt leave to the conſideration of the Government: But I'll tell you wherein every good Man in *England* may aſſiſt them, which is by conſtant Prayers to the Almighty to implore his Bleſſing on their Arms; and had I the Honour of the Queens Ear, I would humbly entreat Her Majeſty to Publiſh a Proclamation, appointing a Day of Faſting and Prayer throughout Her whole Kingdom for that Purpoſe. We have a ſort of People among us, I mean the Diſſenters, who may do this without any Order from above, and this they are bound in Duty to do. Their Fathers have told 'em, and they themſelves have known the Miſeries of Perſecution for Conſcience ſake: God has wonderfully Reliev'd them, he has broken their Fetters and has taken the Yoke from off their Necks, and has eſtabliſhed their Religious Liberties on the ſure *Baſis* of the *Engliſh* Law. They have a Queen to govern them who is a Nurſing Mother to all her Proteſtant Subjects, and is Guardian to that very Law which delivered them from their State of Bondage: They are under no Apprehenſions of future Calamities, unleſs God for our Sins ſhould ſuffer the Beaſts of Prey to break thro' the Line of the Proteſtant Succeſſion; Yet are they not to ſit at eaſe in the enjoyment of their Religion without commiſerating the Diſtreſſed condition of their Proteſtant Brethren beyond the Seas; they may give them the Pious Aſſiſtance of Fervent and Devout Prayers, which often, very often, have work'd greater Wonders than the Power of Martial Bodies: if they have not Intereſt enough to move Temporal Princes to the Aſſiſtance of theſe brave Men, they may approach the Throne of the moſt High without any Maſter of the Ceremonies, or being introduc'd by a Noble Hand. The Courts of the Prince of the whole Earth are equally trod by the Feet of Beggars and Princes, and no Petition is there rejected that comes from a Pious Fervent Soul; here they may make Application for their poor Brethren, and from hence may they expect the ſureſt Supplies and the beſt Aſſiſtance. To move all good Men to this Pious and Neceſſary Work, let us remember our own Condition about 14 Years ago. Had not our Brethren in *Holland* taken compaſſion of our low Eſtate, and beheld with a pitiful Eye our *Religion* and *Liberties* expiring and taking their laſt gaſp; had not our Glorious Deliverer, the mighty *William*, come to our timely Aſſiſtance, we had now been in the ſame Condition with the *Cevennois*, and the whole Proteſtant Intereſt of *Europe* had been totally extirpated. Theſe poor People have no Potentates and Powers to ſtand by them, they have no Ambaſſadors or Reſidents in the Courts of Temporal Princes, they are entered into no Alliances with States and Kingdoms, they have no Leagues Offenſive and Defenſive to Rely upon; their chief Dependance is on the Juſtneſs of their Cauſe, and the Aſſiſtance of the King of the whole Earth, who is indeed an Almighty Ally: At the Court of this Prince every good Man may give them Aſſiſtance: Their Prayers here are equal to Embaſſies, and are juſtly termed the Weapons of the Righteous. Theſe are Weapons which have defeated mighty Hoſts, and no Power on Earth can hinder us from aſſiſting our Proteſtant Brethren with the Arms. What further News have you got?

Country-m. Maſter *Obſervator*, You were in the right ſome time ago when you told me That my Queen would never Pardon the two Run-away Captains in Admiral *Bembow*'s Squadron. They are both Shot to Death at *Plymouth*. My Queen would not let our Country be diſgrac'd by having ſuch Fellows ſet their Feet upon it; and ſo they were Kill'd on Board the *Briſtol*, without ſo much as coming aſhore. I love Shooting of Cowards with all my Heart. I wiſh all in *England* were ſerved the ſame Sauce.

Obſ. I think Shooting too Honourable a Death for ſuch Treacherous Cowardly Miſcreants; Hanging is too good for 'em. It could never enter into my Head that the Queen would Pardon thoſe Commanders. Her Majeſty took the Caſe of Sir *John Munden* right, That I thought She would never carry in Her Reſolutions in matters of the Navy. If ſuch Men as theſe were Pardoned, no Admiral would go to Sea; but Only that never Fought in his Life, and who never deſigns to do it. The Shooting of these two Commanders has done the *Engliſh* Nation more good than the Killing of Ten *French* Captains; for this will be a Terror to others how they make uſe of Treachery and Cowardiſe aboard the Fleet. Our Fleet had been better Officer'd now if this Practice had been uſed in the late Reign. Since the Revolution we have loſt near Forty Sail of Ships of War, ſome by *Cowardice*, ſome by *Treachery*, ſome thro' *Ignorance*, or by other Means. It is worthy Her Majeſties Notice, if not a National Enquiry, How theſe Ships came to be loſt, and by Whom? And whether the Commanders of them when loſt, are not now employed with new Commiſſions? This may be as neceſſary an Enquiry, as into the Deficiencies of Taxes, and the Frauds of thoſe thro' whose hands the Publick Moneys have paſs'd; for the Employing of theſe Men may be the Occaſion of future Scandals, and an Addition to new Taxes.

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